From: <u>Marylou Soscia</u>
To: <u>Soscia, Marylou</u>

Subject: Fw: Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group: Access to Working Draft of the Columbia River Basin State

of the River Report for Toxics

Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 11:20:38 AM

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---- Forwarded by Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US on 04/25/2017 11:20 AM -----

From: Michael Cox/R10/USEPA/US

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I understand several people did not receive this message so I am resending the note. Hope to see you tomorrow in Hood River.

Subject: Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group: Access to Working Draft of the Columbia River Basin State of the River

Report for Toxics

To Members of Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Working Group and Steering Committee:

We are pleased to announce the completion of a working Draft of the Columbia River Basin State of the River Report for Toxics. The Draft Report is available for your review and comment on a secure EPA website. Directions for accessing this website and reviewing the report can be found at the end of this message

This working Draft Report, a vision of the Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Working Group in 2006, was developed to "tell the story" of the toxic chemical problems and solutions in the Columbia River Basin to the general public and decision makers while garnering support and resources for further assessment, monitoring and toxics reduction efforts throughout the Basin. Since this Report is a working draft and still under development and review, we request that you recognize that the information in the Report is preliminary and subject to change prior to release of the final Report. Please do not cite, copy or distribute this report.

This working Draft Report was prepared by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, with the technical guidance and support of the Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Workgroup Steering Committee and Battelle under contract to EPA.

In this working Draft Report, we are providing the following messages about the Columbia River Basin:

- o The Columbia River Basin is a unique and diverse ecosystem that provides cultural, social, environmental, and economic benefits to the people in and outside of the Basin.
- o The health of the Columbia Basin Ecosystem is dependent upon many factors including the level of toxics in water, sediments, fish, and wildlife.
- o Reduction efforts have reduced the levels of several toxic contaminants in the Basin including DDTs, PCBs, and dioxins, but these contaminants are still above levels of concern in many areas. Other toxic contaminants such as PBDEs and mercury, continue to show increased concentrations.
- o Additional reduction efforts are needed to further reduce toxic contaminants.
- o There is a need to better characterize the potential problems associated with emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products.
- o There is a need to better coordinate efforts between groups to leverage limited resources.

The working Draft Report discusses toxic chemical contamination in the Columbia River Basin with a focus on four contaminants: mercury; DDTs; PCBs; and PBDEs (flame retardants). It presents current information and knowledge on toxics in several indicator species (e.g., bald eagle, osprey, and mink) in the Columbia River Basin. The working Draft Report describes current toxics reduction efforts and concludes with future recommendations for public education, monitoring and research, and toxics reduction activities.

We will be providing an overview of the working Draft Report at the June 10th meeting of the Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Working Group in Hood River and then asking for your comments on the working Draft by July 31st..

Here is the process for review:

- o June 5: Individuals can register and gain access to working Draft (see instructions below)
- o June 10: EPA will provide overview of working Draft at Hood River meeting
- o July 31: EPA receives comments from Working Group and Steering Committee members, and works with groups on addressing comments
- o September 30: Complete next draft of Report
- o December 3: Complete Report
- o December 30: Final Report available

If you have any questions or comments please contact either Mary Lou Soscia at 503-326-5873 (soscia.marylou@epa.gov) or Mike Cox at 206-553-1597 (cox.michael@epa.gov).

Draft State of the River Report for Toxics - Website Access Registration

To review and comment on the Draft SORR, we have posted the report on a secure, non-public website called QuickPlace.

Before you can use this website, all non-EPA reviewers will need to register for access to QuickPlace (https://epagpx.rtp.epa.gov/)

Registration directions:

- 1) On the QuickPlace Extranet website, click on "New Extranet User Registration"
- 2) Enter your name, organization, and email info
- 3) Your EPA sponsor email address is: skadowski.suzanne@epa.gov
- 4) QuickPlace name is: "columbiariver"
- 5) Choose an EPA QuickPlace password (or use the one suggested)
- 6) Last, click on the button "Submit Request"

Once you submit your access request, EPA will need to approve your registration and add you as a member of our QuickPlace site.

After you are approved and added to the QuickPlace, you will receive an email invitation with your user name, password and a link to the QuickPlace website To access the website you will use the Columbia River QuickPlace link provided in your email invitation. You will find instructions for reviewing and commenting on the report once you log into the website. This is a secure, internal (not public) website available only to registered members invited and approved by EPA.

If you have any problems or questions registering or using QuickPlace, please call Suzanne Skadowski (206) 553-6689.

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